



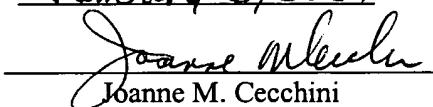
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mark A. Ealey Confirm. No: 2452  
Serial No: 10/730,412 Group: 2872  
Filed: December 8, 2003 Examiner: Shafer, Ricky D.  
For: INTEGRATED ACTUATOR MENISCUS Docket No: XIN-101J  
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Joanne M. Cecchini

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A

Please enter this Preliminary Amendment as submission in connection with the applicant's Request for Continued Examination filed simultaneously herewith, and in response to the Final Office Action mailed September 12, 2006.

RESPONSE

**Amendment to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.